

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1 to 10. (Canceled).

~~11.~~ (Previously Presented) A method for outputting at least one of information and status messages of at least one electrical device using speech, comprising the steps of:
storing the at least one of information and status messages relating to a voice output in a speech memory;
selectively reading the at least one of information and status messages by a processing device; and
outputting the at least one of information and status messages on an output device using an intonation in accordance with a relevance.

~~12.~~ (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 11, wherein the output device includes a loudspeaker.

~~13.~~ (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 11, wherein the at least one of information and status messages requiring immediate action are output in the outputting step using a command intonation.

~~14.~~ (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 11, wherein the at least one of information and status messages requiring immediate action are output in the outputting step at a high volume.

~~15.~~ (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 11, wherein the at least one of information and status messages requiring immediate action are output in the outputting step in a harsh manner.

~~16.~~ (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 11, wherein the at least one of information and status messages are stored in the speech memory in accordance with a

plurality of speaking voices, the method further comprising the step of changing the speaking voice for the at least one of information and status messages requiring immediate action.

~~17~~ (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 11, further comprising the step of increasing the intonation and a connotation of the at least one of information and status messages requiring immediate action in accordance with importance.

~~18~~ (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 11, further comprising the step of varying the intonation with a decreasing connotation for the at least one of information and status messages not requiring immediate action.

~~19~~ (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 11, further comprising the step of controlling the at least one electrical device using speech recognition.

~~20~~ (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 11, wherein the storing step includes the substep of storing in the speech memory a plurality of alternatives of the at least one of information and status messages, and wherein the outputting step includes the substeps of:

successively outputting the alternatives of the at least one of information and status messages in response to a failure to interact with the at least one of information and status messages until an interaction occurs; and

changing a dialog-communication level in response to a failure to interact with a last of the successive alternatives of the at least one of information and status messages.

~~21~~ (Previously Presented) A device for outputting at least one of information and status messages of at least one electrical device using speech, comprising:

a speech memory configured to store data relating to a voice output of the at least one of information and status messages;

a processing device; and

an acoustic output device, the at least one of information and status messages being selectively output on the output device using an intonation in accordance with a relevance.

~~22.~~ (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 11, wherein the at least one of information and status messages is output in the outputting step in a time period in accordance with the relevance.

~~23.~~ (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 16, wherein the plurality of speaking voices includes a male voice and a female voice, the male voice used for the at least one of information and status messages requiring immediate action and the female voice used for the at least one of information and status messages not requiring immediate action.

~~24.~~ (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 20, wherein a sequence of the output of the successive alternatives is based on a permutation by a random-number generator.

~~25.~~ (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 20, wherein the plurality of alternatives differs in at least one of an emphases, a pronunciation, a word arrangement, and a selection of one of a plurality of synonymous terms.

~~26.~~ (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 20, wherein the failures to interact include at least one of a lack of an interaction and an invalid interaction.

~~27.~~ (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 20, wherein the dialog-communication level is changed to a selection list.

~~28.~~ (New) The method according to claim 11, further comprising:
determining the relevance by the processing device;
wherein at least one of information and a status message of a particular one of the at least one electrical device is selectable for output using any of a plurality of intonations, and a particular one of the plurality of intonations is selected and used in accordance with the determined relevance.

~~29.~~ (New) The device according to claim 21, wherein the relevance is determined by the processing device, at least one of information and a status message of a particular one of the at least one electrical device is selectable for output using any of a plurality of

intonations, and a particular one of the plurality of intonations is selected and used in accordance with the determined relevance.